

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1065

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the Nashville Sports Council's Women in Sports Initiative for its commitment and support of the 2022 Southeastern Conference Women's Basketball Tournament and the fiftieth anniversary of Title IX.

WHEREAS, the 2022 Southeastern Conference (SEC) Women's Basketball Tournament will be held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville on March 2-6, 2022, returning for the first time since 2018; and

WHEREAS, the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament generates approximately \$7 million in economic impact; and

WHEREAS, the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament features some of the top women's basketball teams and coaches in the country; and

WHEREAS, with nine national championships, twelve runner-up finishes, a nation-leading thirty-eight Final Four appearances, and 144 first-team All-American honors, the Southeastern Conference stands firmly as the nation's premier intercollegiate women's basketball conference; and

WHEREAS, the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament takes place fifty years after the passage of Title IX in 1972, which states that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance"; and

WHEREAS, the SEC and its celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Title IX at this tournament will include recognition of trailblazers from the fourteen SEC schools that have paved the way for women's advancement and excellence in sports; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Sports Council's Women in Sports Initiative, chaired by Shelia Gibson, is participating in a year-long celebration of Title IX, with the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament as the centerpiece of this effort; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Sports Council's Women in Sports Initiative has organized ancillary events for the public during the tournament to celebrate women's basketball, including the Downtown Dribble for school-age children, School Days for over 2,000 children to attend the tournament with Title IX information, and a Title IX session with SEC trailblazers at the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, partners include the Nashville Sports Council, the Nashville Predators/Bridgestone Arena, the Office of Nashville Mayor, the Metropolitan Sports Authority, and the Nashville Convention and Visitors Corporation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the good people of the Nashville Sports Council's Women in Sports Initiative for their tireless dedication to bringing the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament back to the State of Tennessee, congratulate them on their efforts to promote women's sports, and join with them in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Title IX.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.